

JOHN L. LIKES  
D.T.'S "DRINK"

Big Ex-Puglist Sees Charles Warner in Great Moral Play and Applauds Death Scene with Vigor.

SULLIVAN KEEPS HIS SEAT BETWEEN ACTS.

Mr. Warner Surprises the Gallery "Gods" by Drinking a Scotch Highball After the Play Is Finished.

John L. Sullivan saw "Drink" at the Academy of Music last night and never left his seat during the entire performance, though he was deluged with invitations to have a "smile" between acts.

As he entered the theatre he met Manager Van Deusen, who, after shaking hands, remarked: "This is a great show, John, but Mr. Warner certainly has them bad when he dies with the D. T.'s."

"Huh," replied the big fellow, "if he has 'em any worse than I've had 'em he must be a beauty."

With that the ex-puglist made his way steadily to an aisle seat in the third row.

John's face was a study in the fourth and fifth acts during the gradual degeneration of Coupeau and the ghastly climax of death in delirium tremens. He leaned forward ponderously in his seat and with his forehead resting in a brown watch Charles Warner intently.

When the curtain went down on the death scene he raised his great hands and brought them together with two mighty crashes. Then he settled back to watch the villain get his deserts.

Never Saw Anything Better.

Asked when he went out how he liked the show, he said: "Damn good. Never seen anything better in the big ward. I've seen 'em good an' strong. If I hadn't been on the sprinkler this would have jolted me up to the top seat. Damn good."

Charles Warner will for the three thousandth time appear in the character of Coupeau in Charles Reade's famous melodrama, "Drink," at the Academy of Music to-night. Mr. Warner was seen in his dressing-room last night after his death scene in "Drink."

A moment before The Evening World reporter was ushered into the dressing-room a great audience had watched him die in excruciating mental and physical torture, had seen him battling with the unseen creatures that people the drunkard's last delirium, but as he came forth in greeting, rubbing away at his make-up, there was scarcely a trace of the awful strain he had undergone.

Twenty-two years ago Mr. Warner appeared for the first time in the role of Coupeau and thereafter he appeared consecutively before great London audiences for two years and six months in the same character.

Wanted to Teach Moral Lesson.

When Charles Reade wrote "Drink," he had in mind to teach a great moral lesson, to read a horrifying temperance lecture to the theatre-going world.

Warner was then a young actor, who had never done a great deal of acting, such as Charles Surface in "A School for Scandal," and when the great novelist selected him for the part of Coupeau, the critics rose up in revolt, declaring that he had made a great mistake.

"Charles Reade was a sensitive man," said Mr. Warner last night, "and was naturally alarmed at the predictions of the critics. He came to me and said that I had better take another part."

Reade turned to the critics and said: "You have seen the greatest piece of acting since the actor I have ever seen."

He did not look at me, nor speak to me, but that night he was the greatest triumph of my life, the proudest moment of my stage career."

His Acting Was Over Mr. Warner.

"After the past two performances of the Academy 'gods' of the theatre have seen a man with the 'D. T.'s' in my life. It is simply my instinctive conception of life that I have been put to me by physicians who have treated thousands of alcoholics."

And when I replied: 'alcoholics' they have been astounded. They say that I reproduced with wonderful realism all the stages of delirium tremens."

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## SOME SKETCHES OF CHARLES WARNER, WHOSE ACTING IN "DRINK" STOPS AUDIENCE IMBIBING, AND JOHN L. SULLIVAN, SPECTATOR.



## DREW IS LIVELY BUT PLAY IS DULL

Star Struggles to Animate "Captain Dieppe," but His New-Found Manner Cannot Enliven It.

An animated John Drew, struggling vainly to put life into a slow and rather stupid play, was about all there was to "Captain Dieppe" at the Herald-Square Theatre last night.

Mr. Drew's endeavors to appear volatile were interesting, if not always amusing. As a political agent fled from France to Italy and followed by an automobile detective who was after those long-serving "papers," Mr. Drew was called upon to drop his drawl and to be mentally alert.

Odd?

Yes, rather.

Sometimes, after an extravaganza of speech and gesture, Mr. Drew would shoot a doubtful glance at his audience as if to ask:

"How do you think I did that—eh, what?"

Of course he did it very well—Mr. Drew does everything very well—but it was not the kind of thing that one can chat with somebody worth while, like that organ grinder fellow in "The Mummy and the Humming Bird," for instance.

Is Hardly Himself.

As the captain with the name which sounds like a syllable and a swallow, Mr. Drew was hardly himself, and, like the other character in Anthony Hope and Harrison Rhodes' innocuous play, he was not much of an actor. In fact, he came uncomfortably close to being a scamp when he made love to pretty and in this case girlish-Margaret Dale, under the impression that she, in the role of a young countess, was the wife of a man who had offered his home as a hospitable hiding place.

This scene, however, was the only ingenious situation in the piece, and this Dieppe-Drew was therefore easily forgiven his slight lapse of loyalty.

But it was more difficult to reconcile one's self to the sight of the ordinarily highly honorable Drew shaking hands with a mercenary adventurer who cracked the motor car detective over the head and robbed him in plain view of Dieppe. However, as detectives are not the most desirable visitors in two-dollars-a-seat comedy (notwithstanding this sleuth was acted in good taste by Sydney Herbert, perhaps a charitable view should also be taken of this untoward Drewism).

Allow for Shortcomings.

Admirers of Mr. Drew will doubtless be willing to take into consideration that he had comparatively few bright or cutting things to say, and to therefore make allowance for passing shortcomings in "conduct becoming a gentleman."

And then again, if he had not been supposed to have made love to and kissed the real countess, played by Ethel Horne, with undue distress, we would have been denied a keen and clever bit of acting—quite the best of the evening, in fact—by Alison Skipworth, who as the worthy helpmeet of the cracked-on-the-head detective, witnessed the mis-



laid wooing and then tried to turn it to blackmailing purposes.

To be expected to be as witty in a plot about as interesting, and occasionally as confusing, as the pattern of a piece of fancy-work, was a great deal, it must be admitted, to ask of Mr. Drew.

There is accordingly some excuse for him—but very little for "Captain Dieppe."

They who go to see Blanche Bates in "The Darling of the Gods" at to-night's opening performance will enter the Belasco Theatre through the main entrance. The change which Mr. Belasco has effected in the exterior adornment of the playhouse makes it more beautiful than before. The antique lattice-work of wrought iron that surmounts the porch, as well as the heavy iron Marquise awning that extends to the curb, has been colored in old-style bronze, and a blaze of white light will illumine the entrance. The effect is gained by seven enormous ovals of prismatic crystal. The white light from each of these globes is furnished by a powerful arc lamp constructed on a new scientific principle. Mr. Belasco is the first to apply this principle and has secured patents on the device.

MAXINE ELLIOTT VERY ILL.

Maxine Elliott, the actress and wife of Nat C. Goodwin, who returned from a summer in England ten days ago to appear in Clyde Fitch's new comedy, "Her Own Way," at the Garrick Theatre, is seriously ill at her home in West End avenue and attended by three physicians.

Mr. Goodwin, at the Herald Square Theatre last night, confirmed the report which had travelled down the Rialto earlier in the evening and admitted that her condition was quite serious.

Sydney Herbert, who is to play the part of the production will take place at the scheduled time.

Hill's Friend Wins in Albany.

ALBANY, Sept. 15.—Democratic primaries were held in Albany city and county yesterday. Contests took place in five of the nineteen city wards. State Committee man McCabe will control the city committee by 25 to 12 and also will control the county committee, notwithstanding the fight that was made in Cohoes against the refusal of the opposition inspectors to count the returns in certain wards.

Big Blaze at Shady Side.

Fire last night destroyed the machinery department of the Barrett Manufacturing Company at Shady Side, N. J., below the Palisades, opposite West Nineteenth street. It caused a loss estimated at \$20,000. The blaze started in the paper shop, presumably from the crossing of electric wires.

Have You a Room for Rent?

Houses, rooms and apartments for rent and when advertised in The Sunday World.

## WATCHMAN JUMPS FOR LIFE AT FIRE

Gas Explosion in Old Office Building at Broadway and Park Place Surrounds Enoch Harris by Flames.

An explosion of gas in the basement of the building at the southwest corner of Broadway and Park place early today resulted in a fire that partially destroyed the structure. Enoch Harris, the janitor, escaped from the top floor by sliding down a chain to the roof of the adjoining building in Park place.

Curiously enough, although the explosion was in the basement, the principal damage, which is estimated at \$60,000, was on the top two floors.

Harris, the janitor, was alone in his room on the top floor. His wife and children are in the country. The report of the explosion awoke him, and he ran into the hall, where he was confronted by a wall of flame. He started for the stairs, but was cut off, and naturally supposing that the fire was all through the building, decided to seek escape through a window.

He ran to a window on the west side of the building, overlooking the next building in Park place. His face and hands had been badly burned when he came from his room, and with difficulty he swung out to the fire-escape.

Here again he was cut off from escape, for the flames were leaping from the window below and blocking his way down the fire escape. For several minutes he stood there in despair, the flames constantly getting closer to him, but no help came.

Looking about for a means of escape he saw a chain, which extended from the roof of the burning building almost to the top of the adjoining structure. It was several feet away, but he leaped and grasped it. A miss would have meant death.

Hand under hand he lowered himself to the roof at No. 8 Park place, and when he reached it dropped from sheer exhaustion. In a few minutes he received, and was helped down the hatch by firemen. His burns were dressed by a hospital physician.

EMPLOYEES FIGHT FIRE.

Big Grain Elevator Is Saved by Prompt Work.

The amateur fire-fighters, composed of 200 employees, at W. H. Payne & Son's grain elevator, at Nos. 227 to 233 East One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street, did prompt work to-day, and instead of flames destroying the big elevator, the damage was kept down to \$300.

The fire broke out in the roof, but the men had it under control when the regular department arrived.

New Sketch for Miss Nasby.

Margaret Nasby and George Horace Smith will be seen this season in a clever sketch by Kenneth Lane entitled "Sauce for the Goose." The piece is on original lines and is pleasing from an artistic standpoint. It will be tried out at Keith's tomorrow and will probably be booked for the Keith circuit.

Odell Shows His Power.

That Gov. Odell has a long memory and some influence was shown in the result of the Republican primary in the Sixteenth. Deputy Excise Commissioner George Hilliard, who had been leader for fifteen years, was outvoted by Samuel S. Koenig, a hustling young lawyer, who was put into the contest by the Governor.

In the Twenty-fifth District, where there was a warm contest, Alderman Herbert Parsons won. Parsons is a County Clerk Henry Birrell, who had the organization of the county back of him. Mr. Parsons won hands down. Jacob Newstead, who gave \$5 for every baby born in the district during his campaign, won from John Stebbins in the Twelfth, and Isaac Newman won from Abram Jordan in the Eleventh.

The machine candidates won in Brooklyn in both the Democratic and Republican primaries. The vote in these tests of note in that borough. In none of the boroughs did the result of the primary in any district have any effect upon the approaching campaign.

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